GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:52
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2016
Research and Development
Ajmal Shri Sirajuddin

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India"s spending on Research and Development (R&D) is less as compared to other developing countries and if so, the reasons for less investment in R&D in the country;

(b) whether the number of scientists per million people in India is far below other Asian countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto along with steps taken/being taken to encourage scientific activities in the country; and

(d) the number of patent for new innovations granted to Indian scientists during each of the last three years and the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI.Y. S. CHOWDARY)

(a) No, Madam. According to the UNESCO Science Report 2015, India's Gross Expenditure on R&D is far ahead of many developed and developing nations and it stands among the 10 top leading countries in the world.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. The number of Scientists per million is far below other Asian countries. However, in absolute terms, India has 1,92,819 full time researchers and stands among the top 10 leading countries in the world.

The Government has taken various measures to encourage scientific research activities in the country. These measures include successive increase in plan allocations for Scientific Departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of centres of excellence for research and state of the art facilities in emerging and frontline S&T areas in academic and national institutes, establishment of new and attractive fellowships for both national and overseas researchers and scientists, substantial grant to potential scientist through Extramural Research Funding Scheme, start-ups grant for young scientists and attractive pay package to scientists in addition to substantial revision of fellowships for research students, strengthening infrastructure for Research and Development (R&D) in universities, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships, recognition of R&D units and fiscal incentives and support measures for R&D in industries etc .

(d) The number of patents for new innovations granted to Indian Scientists during each of the last three years and the current year at Indian Patent Office are as under:

PATENTS GRANTED TO INDIAN SCIENTISTS
(In Number)
Year Individual Legal Entities other than Total
Innovator Individual Innovator

2013-14 68 567 635

2014-15 103 581 684

2015-16 137 758 895

2016-17 90 464 554
(till Oct 2016)

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